**WORSHIP: WHERE HEAVEN MEETS EARTH**

**Session Thirteen, The First Sunday in Lent, 10 March 2019**

**9:20 to 10:10**

*Theme: THE SERMON*

*Gathered, 48-49, 153-155, 361-371*

**Opening**

 Invocation

 2 Timothy 4:1-5

 Collect “For blessing on the Word” (LSB, inside front cover)

**General Introduction**

 The sermon is God’s design:

 Luke 24:47

 Augsburg Confession V, 1

 As God’s design, preaching is dependent upon the Holy Spirit:

 truth; message, delivery, results

 God’s design involves a paradox – the divine (infallible) and the human (fallible).

 The human element is highly individualist

**The Sermon**:

 The basis is always textual (even for thematic sermons)

 Preparatory time in the text

 Textual preference, the Holy Gospel

 Doctrinally sound, the voice of the Church

 Law and Gospel: sin and grace (in its various manifestations) is always the focus

 The Law: what God expects and how we have failed (and how we are to reform).

 The Gospel: what God has done, is doing, and will yet do for us.

 Structure of the sermon:

 Goal (Point)

 Malady (Problem)

 Means (Power)

 “Packaging,” style, and delivery

**Listening:** group discussion

 Questions about the preaching task (see above)

 How can you help the preacher preach?

 What sort of sermon grabs your attention? What sort of sermon do you most remember?

 How do you prepare yourself to listen to a sermon?

 How do you reinforce what you’ve heard in a sermon?

**Closing and Dismissal**

 LSB 923, “Almighty Father, Bless the Word”

*LOOKING AHEAD:*

*March 17, “Matins/Morning Prayer” (origins)*

*March 24, “Vespers/Evening Prayer (options)*